

CHAPTER: XV POST ELIGIBILITY BENEFITS	SECTION: 3 FOOD STAMPS	COMAR: 07.03.17.01
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REQUIREMENTS

- A. Close a TCA case if a customer becomes ineligible for any of the following reasons, among others:
 1. Increased income (earned and/or unearned)
 2. Failure to cooperate with child support requirements
 3. No eligible child in the home
 4. Non-cooperation with Quality Control
 5. Failure to comply with certain work requirements
- B. When closing a TCA case, always determine, using the Food Stamp Manual, if the customer remains eligible for food stamps
 1. Check the latest Action Transmittal Food Stamp income/household size chart (updated October 1 of each year) to determine if the monthly income for that size family meets the initial income requirements

Note: The FS household size may be larger than the TCA household, since it may include SSI customers and others who are not eligible for TCA.

The Food Stamp program also has work requirements, but the penalty for failure to cooperate is an individual, not a full-family sanction.

2. Enter any new information into CARES

Note: CARES recalculates the food stamps. If the customer has not provided enough information to determine the new benefit, send a letter to shorten the FS certification period and enter the necessary information into CARES when it is received during the certification period. Otherwise, the customer must reapply for FS.

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EXAMPLES

1. Ms. Piscataway received TCA for herself and 3 children. Child care for her youngest costs \$200 per month. She reported her earnings had increased to \$300 per week. The case manager calculated the new earnings as follows

$$\$300 \times 4 = \$1200$$

$$1200 - \$420 \text{ (35\% gross monthly income disregard)} = \$780$$

$$\$780 - \$200 \text{ (child care cost)} = \$580$$

The maximum TCA benefit for a family of 4 is \$503, which her countable gross income exceeds by \$77. Therefore, when the case manager entered the new information on CARES the TCA case closed. The food stamps were recalculated to determine the new FS allotment.

2. Ms. Parsippany received VA benefits supplemented by TCA for herself and 2 children. Her VA benefits increased to \$450. The maximum benefit for a household of 3 is, for demonstration purposes, \$417.

Since the VA benefits exceed the maximum TCA benefit, when the case manager entered the new information on CARES the TCA case closed. The food stamps were recalculated to determine the new FS allotment.

3. Ms. Monmouth received TCA for herself and 2 children. She had no other income and failed to keep an appointment with Child Support Enforcement so the case manager closed the TCA case, recalculated the food stamps, and sent a letter to shorten the FS certification period.
4. Ms. Hohokus, who had no other income, received TCA for herself and son, Tim. She reported that Tim moved into an apartment with his friends as soon as he graduated from high school.

Since an eligible child no longer lived in the household, when the case manager entered the new information on CARES the TCA case closed. The food stamps were recalculated to determine the new FS allotment.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Food Stamp Manual
- Other Programs and Services — Food Stamps